



A park ranger visits with a family outside the Denali Visitor Center on "Resting Grizzly," a bronze sculpture by Alaska wildlife artist William Berry.

NPS PHOTO / LIAN LAW

Denali Prepares to Meet New Generations

Next year in 2016, the National Park Service turns 100. Just one year later, it will be time to celebrate the centennial of Denali National Park and Preserve, which Congress established as Mount McKinley National Park in 1917.

Both anniversaries provide opportunities to introduce the NPS to a next generation of visitors, supporters and advocates, to engage further with visitors who already know and love parks, and to reflect on the vast network of public lands and protected places set aside for all Americans.

Through these next few years especially, we invite you to take part in an NPS initiative that encourages you to redefine what the word “*park*” means for you.



NPS PHOTO / LIAN LAW

Organizers are especially interested in the perspective of young people. The initiative seeks to tap into their passion for creating, consuming, and

sharing content through social media. It seeks to reach new audiences in the spaces and places where they already are and where they will be the most receptive.



Organizers are especially interested in the perspective of young people. The initiative seeks to tap into their passion for creating, consuming, and



National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis visits with Denali staff and volunteers.

NPS PHOTO / NATHAN KOSTEGIAN

FIND YOUR PARK



A group at Savage River Campground

NPS PHOTO / NATHAN KOSTEGIAN

Welcome to Denali

This year as we invite each American to “Find Your Park,” I recall finding my park as a boy on the fields of Gettysburg and Valley Forge, and later camping and hiking on the Appalachian Trail, which traverses six national parks. Those early experiences led to a lifelong love of parks and a career as a steward to them.

I moved to Alaska in January 2013, and in late May I drove into the park with our road crew during Spring Road Opening. On that beautiful day with clear blue skies we crested Stony Point and the sight of Denali in all its grandeur took my breath away. Since then I have found my Denali in many unexpected places – listening to the stories of Athabaskan elders, watching a lynx silently stalking its prey, or bearing witness to the spectacular migration of the Sandhill cranes.

I invite you to “Find Your Denali” and to share your experience with us at go.nps.gov/DenaliStory



Enjoy your visit.

Don Striker
Superintendent

Page 6 Word Search

How familiar are you with national parks across Alaska? Challenge yourself to find names of NPS units hidden within a puzzle of 400 seemingly random letters.

A map and list of complete names for Alaska NPS units appear on Page 2. Solutions are printed on Page 15.

Page 12 Insights

The Artist-in-Residence Program challenges accomplished artists and writers to create fresh and innovative ways for visitors to experience Denali.


Enjoy art donated by 2014 participants, including an essay, poem, fabric art, a painting, and papercut.

Page 14 Your Story

See photographs shared by visitors and read visitor responses to a question, “What does Denali mean to you?” Listen to audio recordings visitors have left via voicemail to tell us “Your Denali Story.”

Follow park happenings from home on Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, and YouTube.

Visitor Safety Regulations	3
Tour and Shuttle Bus Information	4
Backcountry Permits	7
Entrance Area Trails	8
Ranger Programs,	
Sled Dog Demonstrations	10
Events Calendar	13
Free Entrance Area Shuttles	16



National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior

Denali National Park and Preserve

P.O. Box 9
Denali Park, AK 99755

E-mail
DENA_Info@nps.gov

Website
www.nps.gov/dena

Phone
907 683-2294


Bus and campsite reservations
800 622-7275 Nationwide
907 272-7275 International
www.reservedenali.com

Emergency
Dial 911

Corrections or suggestions?
Jay_Elhard@nps.gov

FOLLOW

DenaliNPS



www.nps.gov/dena

twitter.com/DenaliNPS
www.facebook.com/DenaliNPS
www.flickr.com/photos/DenaliNPS
www.youtube.com/user/DenaliNPS

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.


Alaska

by the numbers

National park units = **23**
Visitors to national parks in 2014 = **2,684,693**
Economic benefit from national park tourism in 2013 = **\$1,145,100,000**
Hours donated by volunteers = **137,448**
World Heritage Sites = **1**
National Heritage Areas = **1**
National Historic Landmarks = **49**
National Natural Landmarks = **16**
National Register of Historic Places listings = **419**
Places recorded by heritage documentation programs = **533**
Objects in national park museum collections = **5,584,473**
Archeological sites in national parks = **5,389**
Threatened and endangered species in national parks = **12**

www.nps.gov/alaska

Free filtered water

 Save money and reduce use of disposable plastic drink containers by refilling your bottle with free, fresh water from filtered dispensers at six park locations (from east to west): Riley Creek Mercantile, Wilderness Access Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Morino Grill, Denali Visitor Center, and Eielson Visitor Center. See maps pages 4, 9, and 16. Water sources are limited beyond the park entrance area.

NPS GRAPHIC / ANGEL SOLOMON

Alagnak Wild River, King Salmon

Alaska Public Lands Centers, (four sites) Anchorage, Fairbanks, Ketchikan, Tok

Aleutian World War II National Historic Area, Unalaska, Dutch Harbor

Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, King Salmon

Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Nome

Cape Krusenstern National Monument, Kotzebue

Denali National Park and Preserve, Denali Park

Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Bettles
Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, Gustavus

Iñupiat Heritage Center, Barrow

Katmai National Park and Preserve, King Salmon

Kenai Fjords National Park, Seward

Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Skagway, Seattle, WA

Kobuk Valley National Park, Kotzebue

Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, Port Alsworth

Noatak National Preserve, Kotzebue

Sitka National Historical Park, Sitka

World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, Honolulu, HI, AK, CA

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, Copper Center

Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Eagle

Services

Accessibility

Most restrooms are wheelchair accessible. Some trails, and tour and shuttle buses are wheelchair accessible. Please advise staff of needs when making a reservation. Park films are open-captioned. Find more information at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliAccess>

Alaska Railroad

You can travel to Denali by rail from Fairbanks, Anchorage, or Talkeetna. Call 800 544-0552, or 907 683-2233 in Denali, or 907 265-2683 in Anchorage.

Banks

The closest bank is in Healy. ATM service is provided at the Wilderness Access Center, and several businesses one mile (1.6km) north of the park.

Child Care

Located on Sulfide Drive in Healy, the Denali Preschool and Learning Center is the only licensed daycare in the Denali Borough. Drop-in childcare is offered year-round, 7 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday, for ages 1 month to 12 years. Documentation of current immunizations is required, or sign an exemption. Contact 907 683-7789.

Connectivity

Cell phones work in the park entrance area. There are no public phones west of Park Headquarters. Report emergencies to rangers, bus drivers, or campground hosts.

Dog Boarding

Available seven miles south of the park entrance. By day, or overnight. 907 683-2580, canineresort@tonglenlake.com

Gas and Propane

Available at gas stations one mile north of the park entrance, 11 miles north in Healy, and 29 miles south in Cantwell.

Glacier Landings

Visitors can opt to land on park glaciers aboard a ski-equipped airplane with:

Fly Denali, with offices in Talkeetna and Healy, AK 866 733-7768 www.flydenali.net
K2 Aviation, Talkeetna, AK 800 764-2291 www.flyk2.com
Sheldon Air Service, Talkeetna, AK 800 478-2321 www.sheldonairservice.com
Talkeetna Air Taxi, Talkeetna, AK 800 533-2219 www.talkeetnaair.com

Grocery, Laundry, and Showers

At the Riley Creek Mercantile, located near the entrance of the park, adjacent to the Riley Creek Campground.

Lost and Found

Call 907 683-9275 or visit the baggage check located across from the train depot, open daily 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Medical

The closest physicians and hospitals are in Fairbanks.

Canyon Clinic, urgent care facility, about a mile north of the park entrance at Mile 238.8. Open 9 am to 6 pm daily, available on call 24 hours, 907 683-4433.

Interior Community Health Center, located in the Tri-Valley Community Center, 13 miles north of the park on Healy Spur Road. Clinic hours are 8 am to 5:30 pm weekdays. A physician's assistant is on call at 907 683-2211.

Talkeetna, Sunshine Community Health Center, Mile 4 of the Talkeetna Spur Road. Open 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Saturday, with 24-hour on-call services 907 733-2273.

Post Office

Located near the park entrance and Riley Creek Campground.

Recycling Areas

Located at the Riley Creek Mercantile for aluminum, plastic, and batteries. Visitor centers, campgrounds, and rest stops have aluminum can receptacles.

Religious Services

Please check at the Denali Visitor Center for times and locations of religious services.

Road Lottery

This year's Road Lottery is Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21 (with Military Appreciation Day set for Sat Sept 19). For each day of the lottery, 400 names are drawn and those winners may drive the length of the Park Road in their personal vehicles. Names of those selected for permits are posted by June 15. Learn more at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery>

Sewage Dump Station

Located adjacent to the Riley Creek Mercantile. Free to campers staying in the park, \$5 fee for others, payable at the Riley Creek Mercantile. Facility may be closed early or late in season due to frozen ground or chance of freezing.

Entrance Fees

Seven-Day Pass: Individual (age 16 and older), \$10
Denali National Park and Preserve Annual Pass: \$40
America the Beautiful Interagency Passes:
Annual, \$80
Senior, \$10
Access, Free
Annual Military Pass, Free

Your Fees at Work

Eighty percent of fee dollars collected in the park return to Denali to pay for projects that have an impact on visitor experience. Recent projects include: informational signs, campground improvements, and trail erosion mitigation.

Food

Don't Go Hungry or Thirsty

There is no food and limited water available beyond the park entrance area. Please be sure to pack well for your travels.

Morino Grill

The only restaurant in the park, adjacent to the Denali Visitor Center, also features a coffee bar and box lunches to go. Open 8 am to 6 pm daily.

Wilderness Access Center

A coffee cart and snacks are available 5 am to 7 pm daily.

Riley Creek Mercantile

Bottled drinks, sandwiches, and a variety of packaged snacks and convenience groceries are available in the Riley Creek Campground. Open 7 am to 11 pm daily with reduced hours likely in May and September.

2 Denali National Park and Preserve, Alaska

You Can Help Keep Wildlife Healthy and Wild

The bears of Denali are wild creatures behaving naturally. These solitary animals can be very dangerous. Denali is home to both black bears and grizzly bears. Black bears inhabit the forested areas of the park, while grizzly bears mainly live on the open tundra. Almost all bears along the Park Road are grizzlies. For your own protection, and to keep bears healthy and wild, please carefully read and abide by these rules. Each of us has an obligation to respect bears and their habitat. These rules are strictly enforced in Denali. Failure to observe them may result in citations or fines.

BE ALERT

Bears are active both day and night and can be anywhere. Watch for tracks and scat.

DON'T SURPRISE

Bears may perceive you as a threat if you startle them. Never get between a sow and her cub. Bears are protective of their cubs.

MAKE NOISE

Warn bears of your presence by making noise—sing, shout, talk. Be especially careful in dense brush where visibility is low, when walking into the wind, and along rivers where bears may not hear you over the noise of the water.



Black bear

PHOTO COURTESY DOUG BROWN

DO NOT RUN

Running may elicit a chase response. Bears can run faster than 30 mph (50 km/hr). You cannot outrun them. If the bear is unaware of you, detour quickly and quietly away. Give the bear plenty of room, allowing it to continue its activities undisturbed.

BACK AWAY SLOWLY IF THE BEAR IS AWARE OF YOU

Speak in a calm, low-pitched voice while waving your arms slowly above your head. Bears that stand up on their hind legs are not threatening you, but merely trying to identify you. Should a bear approach or charge you, do not run. Do not drop your pack. Bears sometimes charge to within a few feet of a person before stopping or veering off. Dropping a pack may pique a bear's curiosity, causing it to investigate. Stand still until the bear moves away, then slowly back off.

NEVER APPROACH

Bears should live as free from human interference as possible. Give them space. Maintain a minimum distance of 300 yards (275 meters). Allowing a bear to approach for photographs is prohibited. If a bear changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.

IF A GRIZZLY MAKES CONTACT WITH YOU, PLAY DEAD

Curl up into a ball with your knees tucked into your stomach and your hands laced around the back of your neck. Leave your pack on to



Grizzly bears

NPS PHOTO / JACOB W FRANK

protect your back. If the attack is prolonged, fight back vigorously. If a black bear makes contact with you, fight back immediately.

BEAR SPRAY

When used properly, bear spray can be an effective deterrent for aggressive behavior by bears. If you decide to carry it, be aware that wind, spray distance, rain, and product shelf life all influence its effectiveness. Learn how to use it safely. Ask a park ranger if you have questions. When traveling on a bus, tell the driver you have bear spray so it can be secured appropriately.

Please report all bear incidents and encounters to a ranger. Park rangers and biologists need this information to document bear behavior for research and management purposes.



© CWFL.org

Be wary of substitutes. Insect repellents, mace, and pepper spray designed for protection from other people do not have the same ingredients or effectiveness as bear spray.



KEEP WILDLIFE WILD

Never feed or approach wildlife

Park Regulations and Safety Advisories

Top 10 Things to Know

For a safe and enjoyable visit, please become familiar with these important park rules and safety advisories.



Do not feed any wild animals, including birds. It is unhealthy for them, and encourages aggressive behavior that may require management action. All pet food, trash, coolers, and cooking tools must be kept secure unless in immediate use. We all have a shared responsibility to keep wildlife healthy and wild.



Do not approach wildlife. You must stay at least 25 yards (23 m) away from moose, sheep, wolves, and other animals. A distance of at least 300 yards (275 m) is required from bears. Regardless of distance, if any wild animal changes its behavior due to your presence, you are too close.



Moose are faster and much less docile than they appear. A cow moose with calves can be especially unpredictable and dangerous. **If a moose charges you, run away.** Dodge quickly behind large trees, cars, or structures. If you are chased while caught out in the open, zigzag or change direction often.



As you explore park trails and wilderness areas, be bear aware. You are safer hiking in groups. In areas of low visibility, make noise to avoid surprise encounters.

Do not run from a bear. If you are going to spend significant time in the outdoors in Alaska, carry bear spray, and know how to use and dispose of it safely.



Pets may be walked along the Park Road, in parking lots, on campground roads, along the Bike Path from the park entrance to the visitor center campus, and the Roadside Trail between the visitor center campus and Park Headquarters. Pets must be leashed with a lead that is six feet or shorter. Do not leave a tethered pet unattended. Owners must collect and dispose of pet feces.



In developed areas, stay on established trails and paths. If you are hiking with a group in areas where there are no established trails, spread out to reduce your impact on the landscape.



Leave what you find. If you find a historic object, artifact, archeological feature or natural curiosity, do not collect it. Federal regulations require that such discoveries remain in context. To help researchers and contribute to science, snap photos and carefully note the location, preferably with GPS reference coordinates.



Cyclists may ride on park roads, parking areas, campground loops, and the designated Bike Trail between the Nenana River and the Denali Visitor Center.



Share the road. Pass no closer than three feet (1.0 m) to bicycles and pedestrians, especially if your vehicle has large side mirrors. On gravel roads, travel at "no dust" speeds that do not kick up a plume that will wash over cyclists and pedestrians. If you see wildlife while driving, do not stop or impede the safe and free flow of traffic along any portion of the road. Instead, park in an established pullout, and watch from a safe distance.



It is the responsibility of visitors to understand all applicable firearms laws before entering the park. **Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in the park.** Those places are marked with signs at all public entrances. The park concessioner does not allow firearms on tour buses. Passengers may carry a firearm on shuttle buses but it must be unloaded and stored in a locked container. Except as part of authorized hunting activities, discharging weapons is strictly prohibited throughout the park. Learn more online at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliFirearms>

25 yards 23 m

Moose, caribou, Dall sheep, wolf, occupied raptor nest, or occupied den site

300 yards 275 m

Bear

Watch Wildlife Safely

Any distance that alters the behavior of a wild animal is too close. Maintain minimum distances at all times. Resist the temptation to approach or intercept an animal's path.

Use binoculars or a telephoto lens to observe an animal's natural behavior. Do not engage in photography if an animal moves closer than the minimum distance allowed. Remind others of their ethical responsibility when photographing animals. Please do not follow an animal at close distance with a vehicle. Motorists must stop and allow an animal to cross the road safely.


Avoid stressing wildlife. Animals living here are engaged in a daily struggle to find food, shelter, and water necessary for survival. Avoid wildlife during sensitive times, such as when they are nesting, mating, or raising young.

Quiet Please

If you see wildlife from a tour or shuttle bus, please heed your driver's instructions to limit noise and distractions. Keep your head, hands, and elbows entirely within the windows of the vehicle.

Thanks For Riding the Bus

The bus that you ride in Denali is key to conserving the park's wilderness character for future generations. Each bus takes the place of dozens of personal vehicles, saves on fuel and emissions, and allows you to watch and enjoy scenery and wildlife more safely.

 The paved section of the Park Road from the entrance at the George Parks Highway to the Savage River Check Station at Mile 14.7 is open to private vehicles during the regular season. The area is served by the **Savage River Shuttle**, a free courtesy shuttle with parking and departure points throughout the entrance area. It's especially well-suited for hiking and cycling logistics, and shoulder season outings. Plan on two hours roundtrip. See more details listed on Page 16. A map and descriptions of Savage area hiking trails appear on Page 8.

Departure

Tour buses depart from area hotels and the Wilderness Access Center. Please check pickup location prior to the date of departure. All **Visitor Transportation System (VTS)** shuttle buses depart from the Wilderness Access Center only.

Dates of Operation

Regular Season May 20 to Sept 16
Shoulder Season May 13-19 and Sept 17
Dates subject to change

Car Seats

Alaska State Law requires children to be in a car seat or booster seat. Children younger than 1 year of age or less than 20 pounds (9 kg) must be in a rear-facing infant seat. Children 1-4 years and at least 20 pounds (9 kg) must be in a child restraint. Children 5-7 years who are less than 57 inches (1.4 m) tall or less than 65 pounds (30 kg) must be in a booster seat. Parents are responsible for providing the appropriate car seat.

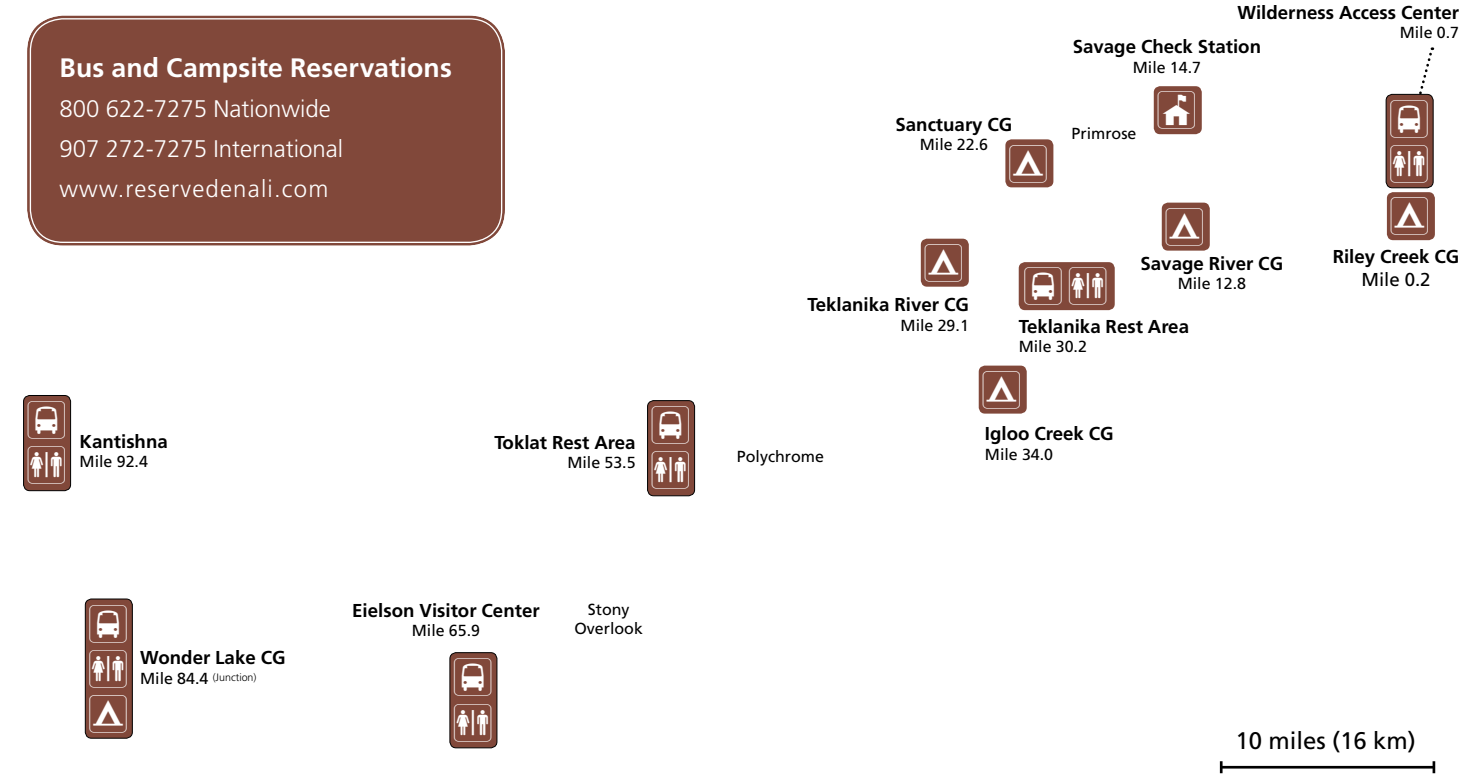
The concessioner makes efforts to provide infant and toddler seats free of charge at the Wilderness Access Center, Baggage Claim, and other areas. Some buses are equipped with two built-in toddler seats.

Accessibility


Wheelchair accessible buses are available on all bus systems. Please advise staff of your needs as you make reservations. American Sign Language interpretation is available with advanced request.

Firearms

The park concessioner does not allow firearms on tour buses. Passengers may carry a firearm on shuttle buses but it must be unloaded and stored in a locked container. Check with the concessioner in advance for more information.




Tours

 **Natural History Tour**
This tour focuses on presenting the rich cultural and natural history of Denali. Your driver/naturalist provides a great introduction to the landscape, geology, and history of the park as you travel 17 miles into the park. Morning and afternoon departures are available. A snack and water are provided.


Length: 4-1/2 to 5 hours

 **Windows into the Wilderness**
This narrated tour to the Teklanika River at Mile 30 provides a blend of history, science, and the opportunity to view wildlife and sweeping landscapes. At the Mountain Vista Trail (Mile 12), an interpreter and an educator introduce visitors to the cultural and scientific significance of Denali. The tour is an excellent choice for families because it includes demonstrations, activities, and a 3/4-mile walk. A snack and water are provided. Morning departures only.

Length: 5-1/2 to 6 hours

 **Tundra Wilderness Tour**
A narrated tour traveling 53 miles into the park to the Toklat River Contact Station offers opportunities to view the park's wildlife and scenery. Tours depart in early morning and afternoon. A box lunch and water are provided.


Length: 7-8 hours

 **Kantishna Experience**
This narrated tour provides exceptional opportunities to view park wildlife and scenery while learning about early park history on this fully-narrated tour. Travels the full length of the Park Road to the historic mining district of Kantishna at Mile 92. A park ranger joins the tour to lead a short walk and tour in Kantishna. Lunch and water included. Morning departures only.

Length: 12 hours

More at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliBuses>

Shuttles

 **Visitor Transportation System (VTS) Shuttle Buses**
Shuttles are for transportation and wildlife viewing. Passengers may get off along the Park Road to hike and explore, then reboard later shuttle buses on a space available basis with a ticket for that day. Waits of up to one hour to reboard a shuttle bus are possible. See page 6 for a link to bus schedules posted online.

Bring plenty of food, water, and adequate warm clothing. No food is available for purchase beyond the entrance area. You may also want to bring field guides, binoculars, insect repellent, and head nets.

Fares are dependent on turn-around destination and do not include entrance fees. Youth discounts apply. Fares listed are for an adult age 16 and over. Youths age 15 and under are free.

All VTS buses have racks available for two bicycles. See page 7.



Visitors board tour and shuttle buses.

Destination	Highlights	Start	Time	Fare
Toklat River Mile 53.5, 85.4 km	Offers restrooms, visitor information desk, bookstore. Highlights include braided river, view of Divide Mountain, wildflowers, Dall sheep, grizzlies, caribou.	May 20	6-1/2 hours roundtrip	Adult, age 16 and older \$27.50 Youth, age 15 and younger FREE
Eielson Visitor Center Mile 65.9, 106.1 km	Offers restrooms, visitor information, art gallery, picnic tables. Highlights include views of Mount McKinley, tundra, trails, golden eagles, grizzlies, wolves, arctic ground squirrels.	June 1	8 hours roundtrip	Adult, age 16 and older \$35.00 Youth, age 15 and younger FREE
Wonder Lake Mile 84.4, 135.9 km (to Park Road junction)	Offers restrooms and picnic tables. Highlights include views of Mount McKinley, kettle ponds, moose, beaver, waterfowl, blueberries.	June 8	11 hours roundtrip	Adult, age 16 and older \$48.25 Youth, age 15 and younger FREE
Kantishna Mile 92.4, 148.4 km	This area is primarily a destination for lodge visitors and backpackers for backcountry access. Please respect private lands.	June 8	12 hours roundtrip	Adult, age 16 and older \$52.50 Youth, age 15 and younger FREE
Camper Bus and Backpackers Only	Tent campers can access backcountry units or Sanctuary, Teklanika River, Igloo Creek, and Wonder Lake campgrounds by camper bus. Reserve when making a camping reservation. Camper bus passes are good on any green bus with space available, for the entire time you are west of Mile 20.	June 1	Depends on destination	Adult, age 16 and older \$35.00 Youth, age 15 and younger FREE

Bus and campsite reservations 800 622-7275 Nationwide 907 272-7275 International www.reservedenali.com

How to Make Reservations for Buses, Campsites

Advance reservations for all bus services and campsites for the 2015 season are available through mid-September. Each reservation for Visitor Transportation System (VTS) shuttle buses may include a maximum of eight seats. Make reservations online or by phone.

Phone lines are open from 7 am to 5 pm daily (Alaska time). Tickets can be purchased by phone up until the day before travel and picked up at the Wilderness Access Center (WAC).

Dial 800 622-7275 nationwide, or 907 272-7275 international, or visit www.reservedenali.com

Tickets

Prepaid, reserved tickets can be picked up at the WAC. It is not necessary to check in at the WAC if you already have your shuttle tickets.

You need to be prepared to board at a loading deck on the west side of the WAC 15 minutes before your departure. Any unclaimed, prepaid tickets for buses departing before 7 am may be picked up from staff on the bus deck. Bus drivers do not sell tickets.

Campground permits and bus tickets may be picked up at either the Riley Creek Mercantile or the WAC.

Entrance Fees

Entrance fees are \$10 per person age 16 years and older. Payment is included with your bus reservation. Otherwise, payment can be made at the Denali Visitor Center by credit card, cash, check, or money order.

Refund Policy

For each shuttle bus seat or campground site there is a \$5 cancellation fee. Shuttle bus cancellations must be made at least 24 hours before departure time. Campground cancellations must be made by 11 am the day before arrival.

Tour bus cancellations must be made seven days prior to departure. No refund is granted within seven days. A \$5 change fee is levied for changes made to existing reservations.



NPS PHOTO / ALEX VANDERSTUYF

A dedicated Junior Ranger completes a drawing activity while riding a shuttle bus. See page 11 for details.



NPS PHOTO / DIANE KIRKENDALL

Still Crown of a Continent

The official height of Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America, remains 20,320 feet, or 6,193.5 meters. While media reports last year suggested the mountain might be 83 feet shorter now, the U.S. Geological Survey attributed the difference to measuring techniques. Airborne radar data from 2010 were based on an average for a 269-square-foot area around the summit and reportedly were not intended to represent height at any single spot. Prevailing estimates for the elevation of the mountain as measured from the summit itself date back to 1952.

Six Park Campgrounds Welcome Tents or RVs

Camping in summer offers you a great way to experience Interior Alaska by tent or RV. Here are some important things to know about your responsibilities.

- Check in after 11 am. Check out by 11 am.
- Quiet hours are between 10 pm and 6 am. At Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds, generators may be operated only from 8 am to 10 am and 4 pm to 8 pm. No exceptions.
- Fires are allowed only in established grates at Riley Creek, Savage River, and Teklanika River campgrounds. The use of power saws and cutting live vegetation or standing deadwood are prohibited. Campfires must not be left unattended.
- Pets must be leashed at all times. They are not allowed on most trails, on river bars, or in the backcountry. Dispose of feces in garbage cans. Secure pet food inside a vehicle or food locker.
- Store all food and ice chests in vehicles or in the food lockers provided.
- Store and cook food away from sleeping areas.
- Whenever they are not in use, all food, food containers, coolers, and cooking utensils must be stored in a closed, hard-sided vehicle or in a food-storage locker. This includes freeze-dried and canned food, as well as beverages and scented items, such as soap, toothpaste, and sunscreen.

- Keep a clean camp and wash dishes immediately. Do not cook directly on fire grates. Dispose of used foil. Never leave food, containers, or garbage unattended even for just a few minutes.
- Scrape unwanted food from pots and plates, and place in a secure trash container.
- Dispose of trash in a bear-resistant trash can or dumpster, available at campgrounds. Be sure dumpster lids are closed and latched.
- Do not feed any animal, including birds.



If you truly enjoy your ride on a shuttle bus in Denali, you can take one home. A souvenir replica is available at park bookstores, and online at www.alaskageographic.org/store. (Commemorative Denali quarter not included.)

	Season Weather dependent	Sites	Water	Facilities	Cost / Night
Riley Creek Campground Mile 0.2, near park entrance	All year; limited facilities from Sept - May	146 sites for vehicles and tents	Yes (no water in winter)	Flush and vault toilets	\$14 walk-in tent \$22-28 vehicles up to 30’ \$28 RV up to 40’
Savage River Campground Mile 12.8	May 19 - Sept 21	33 sites for vehicles and tents	Yes	Flush and vault toilets	\$22 or \$28 based on size and type of site
Savage Group Sites Mile 12.8	May 19 - Sept 21	2 sites, tents only	Yes	Vault toilet	\$40
Sanctuary Campground Mile 22.6	May 20 - Sept 15	7 sites, tents only no vehicles	No	Vault toilet	\$9*
Teklanika River Campground Mile 29.1	May 20 - Sept 21	53 sites for vehicles and tents	Yes	Vault toilet	\$16*
Igloo Creek Campground Mile 34.0	May 20 - Sept 15	7 sites, tents only no vehicles	No	Vault toilet	\$9*
Wonder Lake Campground Mile 84.4 (to Park Road junction)	June 8 - Sept 15	28 sites, tents only no vehicles	Yes	Flush toilet	\$16*
*Prices do not include a one-time, non-refundable campground reservation fee of \$6. Prices are subject to change. 50% discount available with Senior or Access passes only. Cancellations must be made by 11 am the day before arrival in order to receive a refund. Cancellation fee applies.					



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

Before you navigate with a compass in the park backcountry, please learn to adjust declination from magnetic north to true north as much as 18-degrees, 7-minutes east.



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

Work together for safer stream crossings. Unbuckle the waist strap of your pack, face into the current, and talk through taking turns stepping sideways across the stream. Make sure your previous foothold is secure before taking a next step.



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

In bear country, you are safest hiking with groups of three or more (talkative) people.

Leave Denali As You Found It

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Others



To plan return transportation after your hike, download a schedule of VTS shuttle stops along the Park Road @ <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliShuttle> Please be careful to verify effective dates on each page.



NPS PHOTO / KENT MILLER



KEEP WILDLIFE WILD
Never feed or approach wildlife

Trails Beyond the Entrance Area

	Connections	Time	Distance	Change	Grade	Trail Width	Surface
Tundra Loop Trail	From the Eielson Visitor Center, at Mile 65.9 of the Denali Park Road, this short loop explores alpine tundra plant community	15-minute loop	0.3 miles 0.5 km	negligible	12%	5 feet	Compacted gravel
Thorofare Ridge Trail	From the Eielson Visitor Center, this switchback trail climbs to a ridge for high, scenic views of Mount McKinley and a vast expanse of tundra beyond	One hour one-way	0.8 miles 1.3 km	1,000 feet	25%	5 feet	Native soils with roots and rocks
McKinley Bar Trail	From a road junction approaching Wonder Lake Campground, this trail passes through wet meadows and enters spruce forest, and ends at the McKinley River	90 minutes one-way	2.4 miles 3.9 km	negligible	5 to 15%	2 feet	Native soils with roots and rocks, wood planks

J	L	Z	A	B	E	R	I	N	G	L	A	N	D	B	R	I	D	G	E
T	A	I	W	L	G	Q	F	W	I	O	H	Z	L	G	S	F	A	O	L
M	L	Q	U	C	A	P	E	K	R	U	S	E	N	S	T	E	R	N	W
C	E	N	Z	X	T	S	I	A	N	I	A	K	C	H	A	K	O	B	R
Y	U	O	G	Y	E	I	K	O	B	U	K	V	A	L	L	E	Y	K	A
P	T	A	U	V	S	V	H	A	N	E	S	P	D	U	A	V	C	L	N
S	I	T	K	A	O	M	D	X	P	J	A	H	I	V	G	A	E	O	G
L	A	A	E	J	F	E	D	V	Y	U	O	L	K	S	N	L	B	N	E
W	N	K	N	I	T	C	Q	E	G	X	B	G	D	M	A	O	U	D	L
R	W	O	A	U	H	K	U	R	N	E	T	L	O	S	K	R	D	I	L
X	W	E	I	N	E	U	J	I	P	A	U	A	I	U	W	I	Y	K	S
F	I	L	F	X	A	I	H	O	R	H	L	C	W	C	I	N	X	E	T
M	I	A	J	U	R	U	N	K	F	U	Z	I	N	J	L	P	C	G	E
Y	U	K	O	N	C	H	A	R	L	E	Y	E	U	K	D	A	U	O	L
B	K	E	R	Z	T	C	U	K	I	O	Q	R	F	N	R	C	N	L	I
Q	U	C	D	E	I	R	G	P	A	H	R	B	H	K	I	I	Y	D	A
L	H	L	S	Q	C	A	M	V	E	T	E	A	J	E	V	F	M	R	S
N	G	A	F	D	Y	W	B	Y	D	P	M	Y	N	G	E	I	E	U	Y
S	I	R	T	U	S	P	G	T	V	J	F	A	P	Z	R	C	T	S	I
E	W	K	I	N	U	P	I	A	T	H	E	R	I	T	A	G	E	H	T

FIND YOUR **PARK**
WORD SEARCH

Find a map and a list of complete names for all **Alaska NPS** units on Page 2. Solutions appear on Page 15.

- ☐ Alagnak Wild River
- ☐ Alaska Public Lands
- ☐ Aleutian WWII
- ☐ Aniakchak
- ☐ Bering Land Bridge
- ☐ Cape Krusenstern
- ☐ Denali
- ☐ Gates of the Arctic
- ☐ Glacier Bay
- ☐ Inupiat Heritage
- ☐ Katmai
- ☐ Kenai Fjords
- ☐ Klondike Gold Rush
- ☐ Kobuk Valley
- ☐ Lake Clark
- ☐ Noatak
- ☐ Sitka
- ☐ Valor in Pacific
- ☐ Wrangell St Elias
- ☐ Yukon Charley

Backcountry Trips Begin with a Free Permit, Safety Talk

A backpacking trip in Denali's vast wilderness areas is unlike backpacking in most other national parks. Be prepared to find your own way across the landscape, and to cover a fraction of the distance in a day that you might manage elsewhere.

Overnight stays in the backcountry require a free permit available at the **Backcountry Information Center (BIC)**. Located next to the Wilderness Access Center (WAC), the BIC is open 9 am to 6 pm daily. Arrive no later than 5 pm to obtain a permit. Call 907 683-9590, or visit <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliBackcountry>

The permit includes these steps:

- Plan your itinerary
- Watch backcountry safety video
- Attend the ranger safety talk
- Mark your map
- Obtain a camper bus ticket at the WAC only after completing your backcountry orientation

Permits are issued only in person, no more than one day in advance. Permits are not required for day hikes, but some areas may be closed to entry. Hikers should stop at the BIC for a map and current information.

Denali's vast backcountry is divided into units. Each has a daily quota for the number of people who may camp there. Because more popular units fill early, be flexible when planning your trip.



NPS PHOTO / KENT MILLER

Most units require the use of bear-resistant food containers (BRFCs), loaned free of charge with a permit. All food, toiletries, and garbage must be stored in these containers. These containers are lightweight, cylindrical canisters designed to keep bears from obtaining human food and trash.

Since the introduction of BRFCs in 1984, there has been a 95 percent reduction in bears obtaining backpackers' food and an 88 percent decrease in property damage. All food, including freeze-dried and canned foods and beverages, and scented items, such as soap and sunscreen, must be kept in the containers when not in use.

- Cook and store food at least 100 yards/ meters downwind from your tent in an area with good visibility in all directions.
- Keep an eye out for approaching bears.
- Be prepared to put food away in a hurry.
- Avoid cooking greasy or odorous foods.
- Do not sleep in the same clothes you wore while cooking.
- Keep a clean and tidy camp.
- Pack out all trash.

Cycling is an Adventure on Denali Park Road

Bicycling is a great way to enjoy the Denali Park Road. You can help make it a pleasant and safe experience.

- Cyclists may ride on park roads, parking areas, campground loops, and the designated Bike Path.

- Stay attuned to road surface, traffic, and weather conditions as you're riding. Travel single file, keep to the right, and comply with traffic regulations.

- Bicycles can be transported free on the **Savage River Shuttle** and on all park shuttle buses. Space is limited to two bicycles per bus. Check availability or make reservations at the Wilderness Access Center or www.reservedenali.com

- Bike racks are provided at campgrounds, rest areas, and visitor centers. If you go day hiking along the Park Road, carry your bike 25 yards from the roadway and hide it from view. If you're leaving it overnight, tag it with contact information.

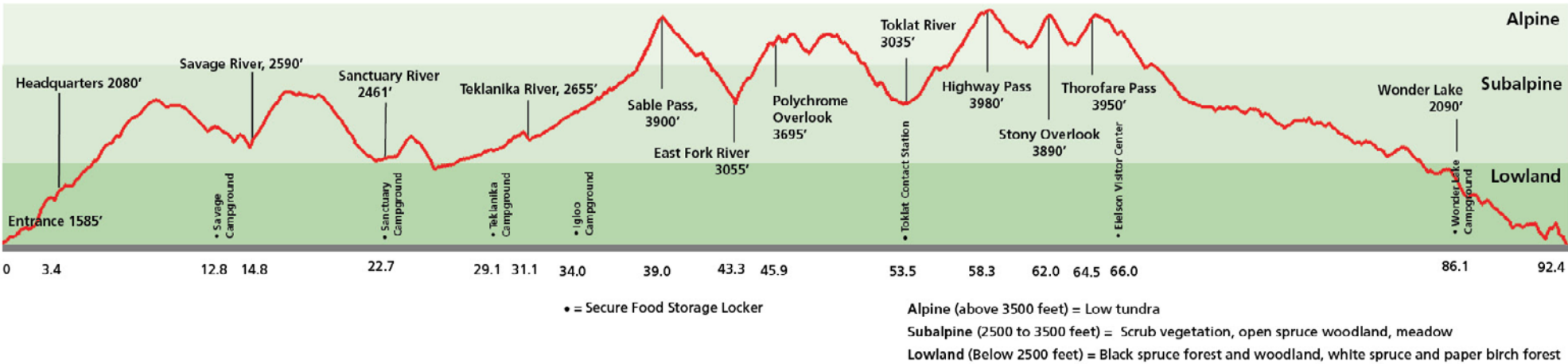
- Wild animals are curious and opportunistic. Do not leave food or scented items on your bicycle unattended. Use a food storage locker provided at campgrounds and other locations, or use a bear-resistant food container provided free with a backcountry camping permit.

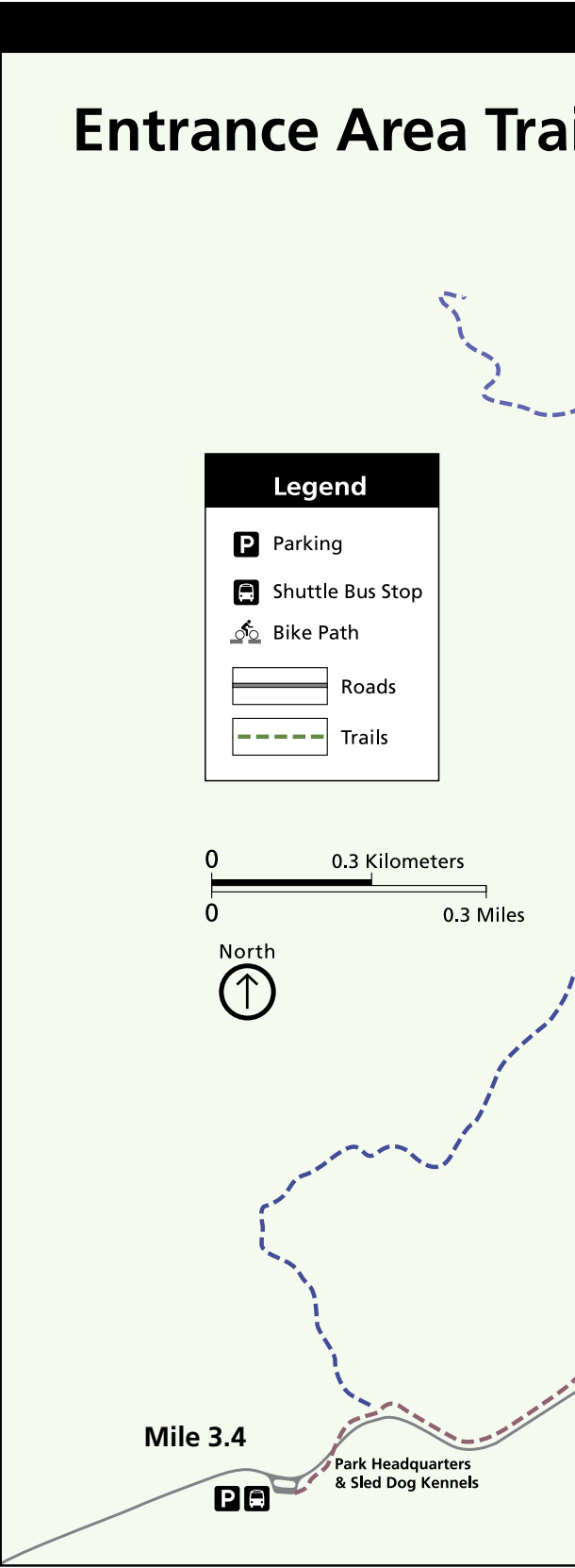
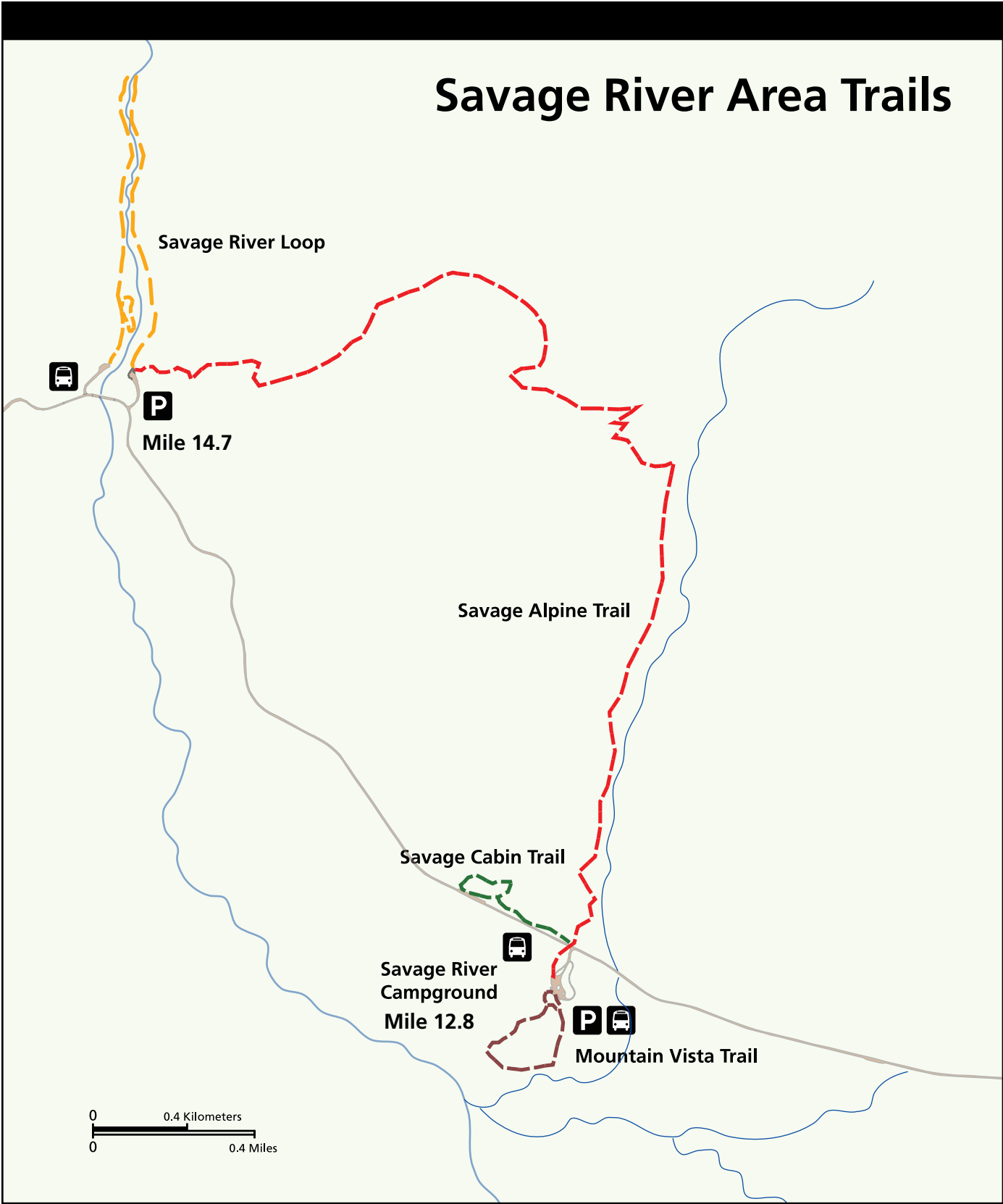
- If a bear or wolf appears near you or your planned route, do not try to outride it. Stop and dismount. Keep all your gear with you. Back away slowly. Wait for the animal to move away. If there is a vehicle nearby, use it as a barrier between you and the bear or wolf. Consider carrying bear spray, and learning how to use and dispose of it safely.



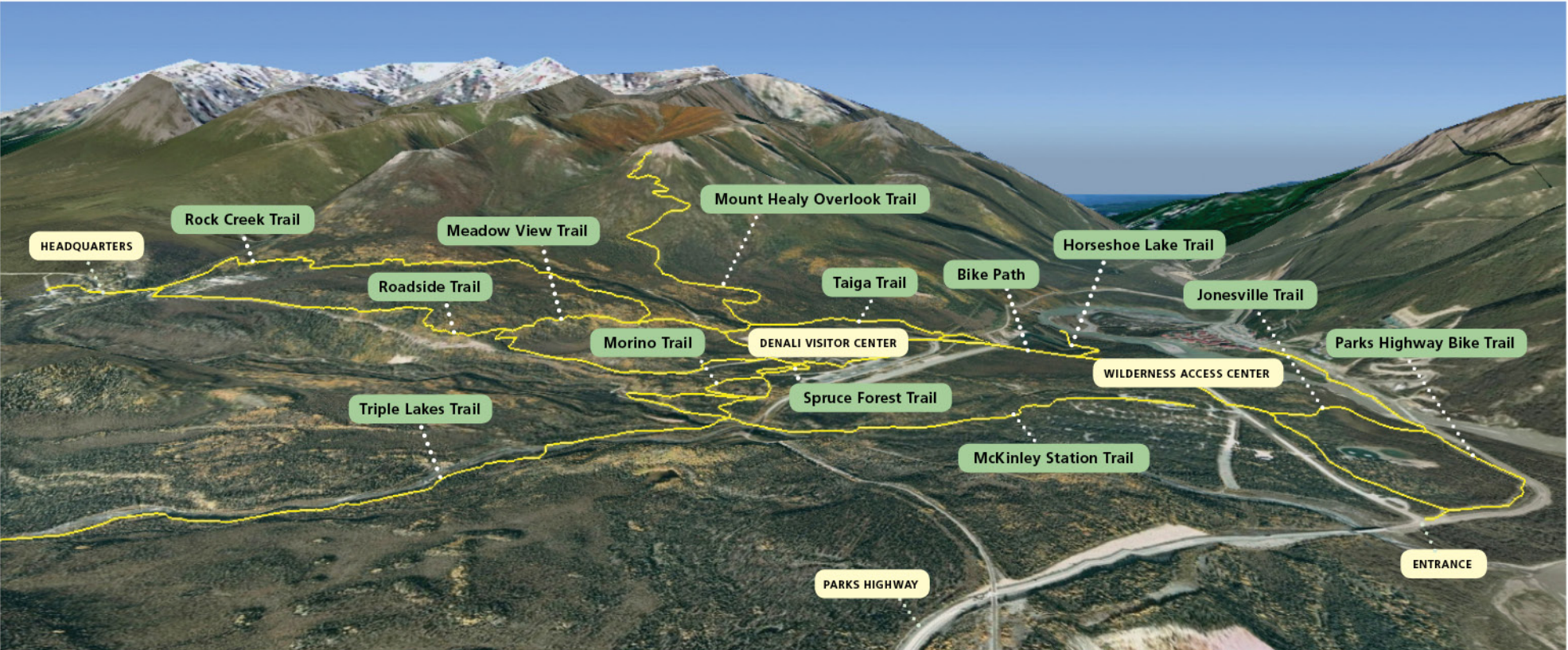
NPS PHOTO / KENT MILLER

Denali Park Road elevation contour (in feet)

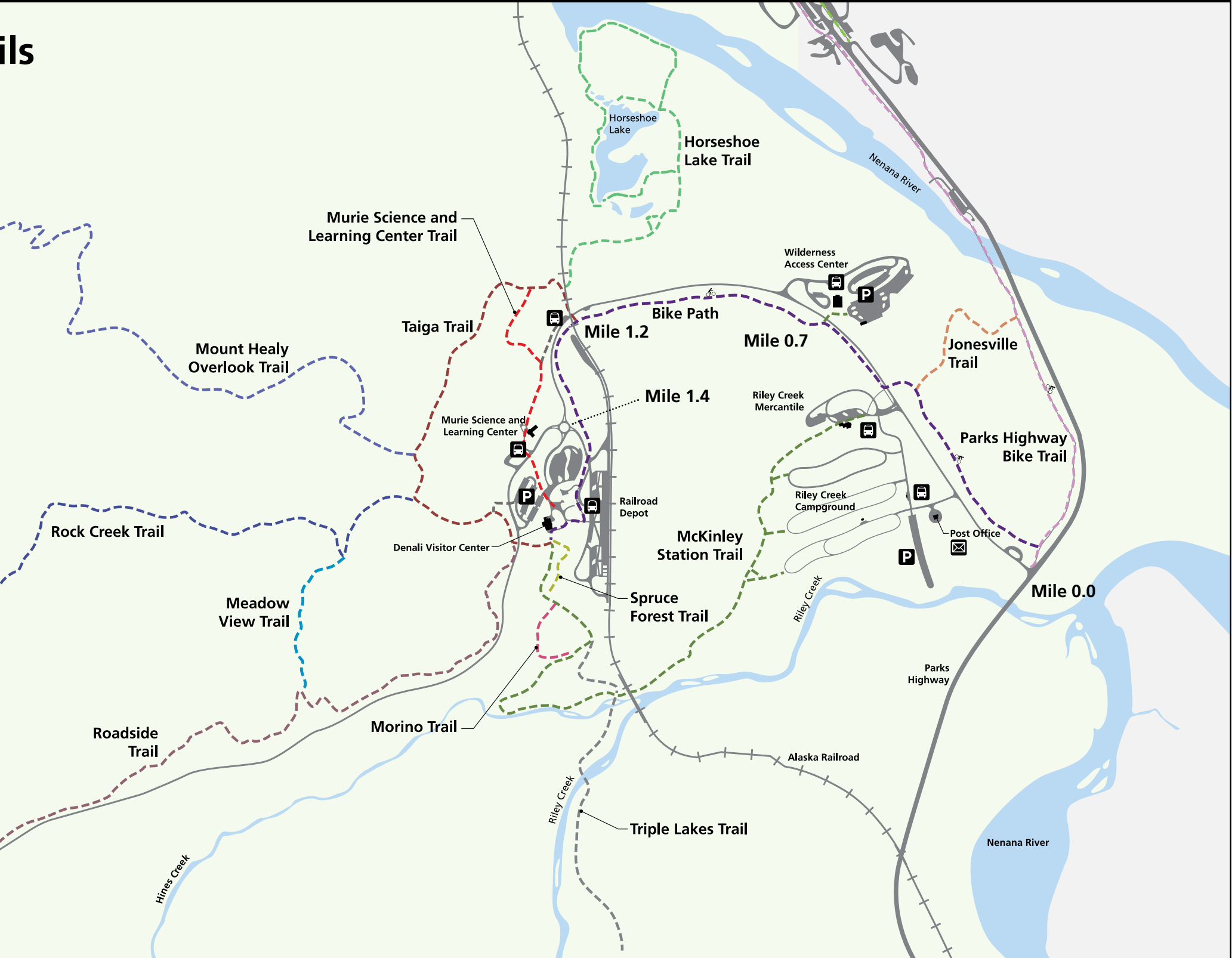




	Connections	Time	Distance	Elevation	Grade	Trail Width	Surface
Mountain Vista Trail	Located at Mountain Vista Rest Area, at Mile 12.4 of the Denali Park Road. Can be accessed by the free Savage River Shuttle and private vehicle, with ample parking available.	30-minute loop	0.6 miles 1.0 km	50 feet	5%	6 feet	Compacted gravel
Savage Alpine Trail	Connects Savage River, campground and Mountain Vista day use areas. Parking available at either end. Use free Savage River Shuttle to return to your vehicle. Considered strenuous.	Three hours one-way	4.0 miles 6.4 km	1,500 feet	25%	2 feet	Native soils with roots and rocks, gravel
Savage Cabin Trail	Limited parking available, consider Mountain Vista. Trail to Savage Cabin includes a series of waysides emphasizing local history. (Living history talks available only to concessioner tours.)	30-minute loop	0.8 miles 1.3 km	50 feet	5%	6 feet	Compacted gravel
Savage River Loop Trail	Located at the Savage River at Mile 14.74. Very limited parking available. Can be accessed by free Savage River Shuttle.	1.5-hour loop	2.0 miles 3.2 km	negligible	none	2 feet	Native soils with roots and rocks



NPS GRAPHIC / JON PAYNTER



	Connections	Time	Distance	Elevation	Grade	Trail Width	Surface
Bike Path	From visitor center to Wilderness Access Center, campground, and Park Entrance. To access services in Nenana Canyon via Parks Highway Bike Trail , add 1.0 miles, 30 minutes.	45 minutes one-way	1.7 miles 2.7 km	150 feet	5%	10 feet	Compacted gravel
Horseshoe Lake Trail	From Taiga Trail or Bike Path (0.5 mile shorter) join Horseshoe Lake Trail at railroad tracks (limited parking available). From bus stop, loop is two miles.	Two hours roundtrip	3.2 miles 5.1 km	250 feet	5 to 20%	5 feet	Native soils with roots and rocks, portions compacted gravel with log checks
Jonesville Trail	From the Bike Path (near the Riley Creek Mercantile), connects to the Parks Highway Bike Trail and services in the Nenana Canyon.	10 minutes one-way	0.3 miles 0.6 km	75 feet	10%	4 feet	Compacted gravel
McKinley Station Trail	From the visitor center to Riley Creek Campground and Riley Creek Mercantile (offers access to the Triple Lakes Trail).	One hour one-way	1.6 miles 2.6 km	100 feet	8.5%	5 feet	Compacted gravel
Meadow View Trail (Connection for loop)	A short connector trail between Rock Creek and Roadside trails forms a 1.6 mile/2.6 km loop back to the visitor center.	1.5 hour loop	0.3 miles 0.5 km	none	Access trails up to 15%	2.5 feet	Compacted gravel
Morino Trail	Take the McKinley Station Trail for 0.4 miles to a short spur trail to historic roadhouse and homestead sites. Turn left at main trail to loop back to visitor center.	15 minutes one-way	0.2 mile 0.3 km	none	none	5 feet	Compacted gravel
Mount Healy Overlook Trail	Take Taiga Trail for 0.5 miles, then look for Mount Healy Overlook Trail junction. Considered strenuous.	Two hours one-way	2.7 miles 4.3 km	1,700 feet	25%	2 feet	Native soils with roots and rocks
Murie Science and Learning Center Trail	Connects to the Murie Science and Learning Center, then leads toward Horseshoe Lake and the Taiga Trail Loop, with a spur trail to the Bike Trail.	20 minutes one-way	0.6 mile 1.0 km	80 feet	10%	4 feet	Compacted gravel
Parks Highway Bike Trail	A multi-use path that runs parallel to the George Parks Highway from the Park Entrance to the Nenana River Bridge and hotels, restaurants, shops and businesses in Nenana Canyon beyond.	30 minutes one-way	1.0 mile 1.6 km	50 feet	less than 5%	8 feet	Asphalt
Roadside Trail	From the visitor center via Taiga Trail to Park Headquarters and Sled Dog Kennels.	One hour one-way	1.8 miles 2.9 km	350 feet	15%	3 feet	Compacted gravel
Rock Creek Trail	From the visitor center via Taiga Trail to Park Headquarters and Sled Dog Kennels.	1.5 hours one-way	2.4 miles 3.8 km	400 feet	15%	2.5 feet	Compacted gravel
Spruce Forest Trail	For a short accessible loop, take the McKinley Station Trail and turn left at the first junction to return to the visitor center.	20-minute loop	0.15 miles 0.24 km	none	none	5 feet	Compacted gravel
Taiga Trail	Provides access to Rock Creek, Mount Healy Overlook, and Roadside trails.	45 minutes one-way	0.9 miles 1.5 km	75 feet	5 to 15%	2 feet	Gravel with open ditches to step across
Triple Lakes Trail	Access via the McKinley Station Trail, or a pullout at the north side of the Nenana River Bridge approximately Mile 231.5 of the George Parks Highway.	Five hours one-way	9.5 miles 15.3 km	1,000 feet	20%	2 feet	Compacted gravel, soils, rocks, roots, wood planks, suspension bridge

Unless noted, all chart walking times and distances originate at a trailhead behind the Denali Visitor Center.

Ranger Programs Help You Connect With Special Places

Guided Hikes

During peak season, several guided hikes depart daily from the Denali Visitor Center and the Eielson Visitor Center. During May or September, offerings are more limited.

- **10 am, GUIDED NATURE HIKE** — Join a ranger for a guided hike that lasts around two hours and covers about three miles round trip. This hike is considered moderate. Meet at the Denali Visitor Center just before 10 am to participate.
- **1 pm, HIKE TO THE KENNELS** — Join a ranger for a guided hike to the Park Kennels that lasts around 2.5 hours and covers up to 2.5 miles with about 500 feet of elevation gain. Meet at the Denali Visitor Center just before 1 pm to participate. The hike concludes at the Kennels by 3:30 pm, in time to meet the dogs and watch the 4 pm Sled Dog Demonstration. You can return to the Visitor Center by way of free "Dog Demonstation" or "Riley Creek Loop" courtesy shuttles.
- **1 pm, EIELSON STROLL** — Join a ranger for a short naturalist walk of about 45 minutes around the Eielson Visitor Center. No registration is required, but select a shuttle bus departing 8:30 am or earlier from the entrance area. The visitor center is located at Mile 65.9 and is accessible by any Eielson, Wonder Lake, or Kantishna shuttle bus.



NPS PHOTO / ALEX VANDERSTUYF

Theater Programs

10:30 am and 2 pm — Illustrated ranger programs are offered twice daily in the Karstens Theater at the Denali Visitor Center. Check topics at the information desk.

Evening Campground Programs

Check local campground bulletin boards for topics and schedules. Programs last 45 minutes.

- **7:30 pm, RILEY CREEK CAMPGROUND**
Mile 0.2, parking available near campground
- **7:30 pm, SAVAGE RIVER CAMPGROUND**
Mile 12.8, accessible by courtesy bus or private vehicle
- **7:30 pm, TEKLANIKA RIVER CAMPGROUND**
Mile 29.1, accessible only to campers at campground
- **7:30 pm, WONDER LAKE CAMPGROUND**
Mile 84.4, accessible only to campers at campground

Learn more about park ranger programs at
<http://go.nps.gov/DenaliRanger>



As a courtesy to others, please silence your cellphone during ranger programs. The signal also can interfere with sound amplification and accessibility features in some park facilities.



NPS PHOTO / SEAN PROCTOR

Some dogs are especially excited by children. Please be sure an adult is always nearby.

Park Kennels Experience is One-of-a-Kind

The historic **Park Kennels** are open to visitors year round, 8 am to 5 pm daily, near Park Headquarters at Mile 3.4 of the Park Road. Free courtesy shuttles are provided throughout the visitor season. (See page 16.) Public parking in the area is limited. If you drive yourself, do not expect to find a parking spot.

- Be sure to check in with staff and read all safety information as you arrive.
- For the safety of your pets, please leave them at another safe location while you visit the sled dogs. This includes service animals.
- Keep children at your side at all times.
- If any dog acts excited (jumping, barking, pacing) or nervous, please visit a different dog.
- Help train the park dogs to have good manners. They should not jump on you, chew on fingers, or eat any human food.



NPS PHOTO / KENT MILLER

Free demonstrations depict how rangers and dogs work together to practice a traditional Alaskan mode of travel. These truly unique, 30-minute programs include an opportunity to tour the kennels and visit Alaskan huskies.

Demonstrations are offered three times daily during peak season, at 10 am, 2 pm, and 4 pm. In May and September, offerings are more limited.

No registration necessary. Arrive at Denali Visitor Center bus stop 40 minutes prior to start time to board the “Dog Demonstration” courtesy bus. There are no late departures.

Programs are given rain or shine, so be prepared with an umbrella or rain coat. Some seating is available, and there is plenty of standing room.

Learn more about sled dogs and the park kennels at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDogs>



NPS PHOTO / NATHAN KOSTEGIAN

Discovery Hikes

This off-trail, all-day hike with a park ranger to a different site every day is a great way to explore Denali. Offered June 8 to mid-September, hikes can vary in difficulty. Participants must be prepared for uneven terrain, small stream crossings, dense vegetation, unpredictable weather, and close encounters with wildlife. While the hike itself is free, participants are required to sign up in advance at the Denali Visitor Center and to purchase a \$35.00 Discovery Hike bus ticket. Group size is limited to 11 hikers.

Learn more about joining a Discovery Hike at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDiscovery>



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

Last year, the MSLC hosted a first Denali Bug Bio-Blitz, an intense biological survey to document as much invertebrate biodiversity in the park as possible. Visitors and scientists interacted in a series of activities and workshops.

Science Outreach Focuses on Discovery

At the Murie Science and Learning Center (MSLC), visitors can learn about park science in an exhibit area, allow kids to explore an activity corner, enjoy comfortable chairs around a warm fireplace on cold and wet days, and get current park information at the front desk. In summer, the MSLC offers public presentations, half-day classes, multi-day field courses, teacher trainings, and youth camps.



Hours at the MSLC are 9 am to 4:30 pm daily. For current courses and programs, call 907 683-6432 or visit www.nps.gov/rhc/murie. To walk there, simply follow white, painted dinosaur tracks you will find on pathways outside the Denali Visitor Center.

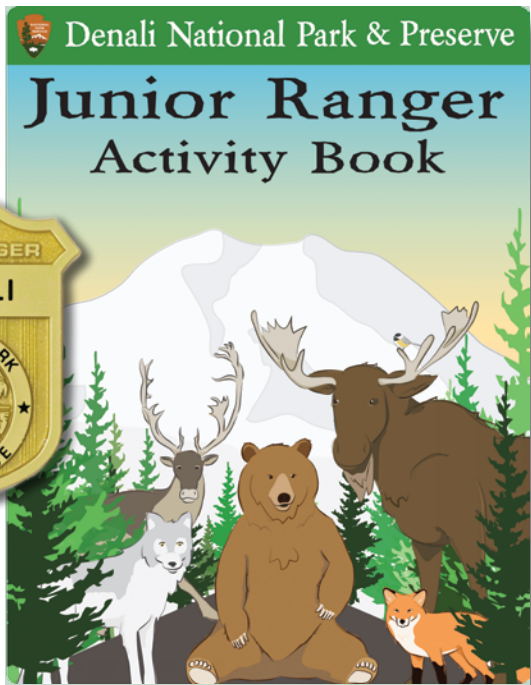
Noontime Films and Presentations: Bring your lunch and join us at noon daily for film screenings and live presentations by Alaska Geographic staff.

Evening Speaker Series: On most Monday and Friday evenings at 7 pm, Alaska Geographic hosts presentations by visiting specialists for in-depth explorations of science and humanities. See events listings, page 13.



NPS PHOTO / DANIEL LEIFHEIT

The **Denali Discovery Pack** program features durable backpacks families can check out at no cost during their visits. Inside there are eight lessons in an activity guide organized by tundra and taiga habitat. Visit the Denali Visitor Center to check out a backpack for your whole family.



If you complete a **Junior Ranger Activity Book** while you're here, show your work to a park ranger, take an oath, and receive a badge. Free copies are available from bus drivers and at seven park locations — Denali Visitor Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Savage Check Station, Wilderness Access Center, Toklat River Contact Station, Eielson Visitor Center, and the Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station. Learn more at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliJunior>



NPS PHOTO / KENT MILLER

Bookstores

Alaska Geographic operates four bookstores in the park, including the main Denali Visitor Center campus, the Murie Science and Learning Center, the Toklat Rest Area, and the Talkeetna Ranger Station. A portion of every sale helps fund park educational and interpretive programs. More at www.alaskageographic.org/store.

Immerse Yourself More Deeply in Park Experience

Institute-Style Field Courses:

Immerse yourself in a hands-on multi-day learning vacation. As part of a national effort to increase scientific literacy by showcasing research from living laboratories, the Murie Science and Learning Center hosts citizen science and teacher training courses on topics ranging from archeological surveys to glacier and climate studies. Offerings are posted online at www.alaskageographic.org

Kids' Camps:

Kids get to explore Denali during week-long youth camps each summer. These are fabulous opportunities for youngsters to play games that teach about park science, learn camping and backcountry travel skills, and have fun with their peers in a wild but safe environment. More at www.denali.org/programs/youth



NPS PHOTO / NEIL BLAKE

Alaska Native high school students from Anchorage who never had camped in Denali before hiked to Muldrow Glacier as part of a field camp based in the park interior.

Park Partners

As a nonprofit education partner, **Alaska Geographic** connects people to Alaska's magnificent wildlands through experiential education, award-winning books and maps, and by directly supporting the state's parks, forests, and refuges. Over the past 50 years, Alaska Geographic has provided more than \$20 million to fund educational and interpretive programs throughout Alaska's public lands. It also supports education programs, scientific research, and science-informed management decisions through the Murie Science and Learning Center.



Alaska Geographic Association
907 683-1272
www.alaskageographic.org



The **Denali Education Center** is a local non-profit organization that partners with the NPS to offer summer programs for local youth, including Denali Discovery Camp and Denali Backcountry Adventures. Other education programs include Discover Denali, Denali Community Series, and W.I.L.D. About Denali, all of which emphasize the unique natural history and wildlife of the Denali bio-region.

Denali Education Center
907 683-2597
www.denali.org



Angela Morales Writer-in-Residence 2014

Excerpt from
" 18 Meditations from Denali "

WILDERNESS ALLOWS US THE PRIVILEGE OF LIVING “OFF THE CLOCK” —to rise at a pace similar to the animals that inhabit that space. In wilderness, we can mostly do as we please. I study the clouds and some raindrops fall onto my face; I dance around on an empty road and halt when I notice a gray jay staring at me. I stare back. Sitting on a rock, I study the heart-shaped leaves of an arctic birch—its veins like raised arms. Later I note the nod of a bluebell’s petals and admire the undulations of the river, and looking closer, the minerals and silt that swirl around inside of it, noting how that sparkly gray water grabs up debris and hurries it along.

Today I wander around outside the cabin, peering down at grasses and examining a fuchsia fireweed flower. I turn it round and round, noticing how the sticky pollen clings to the stamens as long delicate hairs unfurl around the petals, little invitations for bees. Suddenly I have a vivid memory: I see my first skateboard—a fiberglass beauty with red acrylic wheels, and there it floats, like a ghost hovering above this grassy hill. This leads to the memory of how I got this skateboard. . . .another story, perhaps? So why did I suddenly envision my beloved skateboard while staring at this flower? Did its color jar my memory? What about the purple monkshood? The yellow of the tundra rose? Can memories and new ideas arise from these unfettered spaces? How rare are these days of uncharted time!

Wilderness, then, equals time. Open space allows us to consider our size as we stand alone on the tundra. Who are we, really, without all our things? Rather than diminish us, this feeling of smallness should liberate us, giving us faith in our silly ideas, showing us that “I” am as important and as unimportant as any other creature in the world, whether it be a marmot, an arctic squirrel, or the president. My equal importance and simultaneous lack of importance calms my worries, gives me courage to take creative risks, and to use my voice. Wilderness, especially Denali, is good medicine for all that ails us, as we city people continue to compete for space and for resources (both internal and external). Being in wilderness forces us to unplug from the chatter of information—no cell phones, no computers. All this uncontrolled chit-chat echoes until the noise makes fractals of our thoughts and memories.

I look outside the window. Rain and mist have settled, water ticking against the stovepipe. Suddenly I see another seemingly random image: my Brownie uniform—the one that I wore in the second grade. Why now? I can recall my chubby knees, my brown polyester knee socks, my orange snap-on tie, and how proud I felt wearing it. I can ignore the vision or I can follow it down the rabbit hole and see where it leads. Conclusion: These moments of tranquility—in this protected space—may truly be our last salvation, not just for inspiration, but to keep us pure of heart, healthy, connected with the past and able to envision the future. By studying this land and sketching a picture with words, we can also look inward. The trick is capturing those words before they disappear. Even here, words, like chickadees, flutter down and then arise in a second, all wings and chatter before they melt into the sky.

FIND YOUR PARK

Since 2002, more than 50 accomplished artists, writers, and composers have participated in the **Artist-in-Residence** program. Learn more at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliArt>



Lorraine Bubar Artist-in-Residence 2014
"Denali" Papercut 39" x 36"



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

Reproductions of some artwork in the program collection are available in park bookstores. Check online at www.alaskageographic.org/store



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

Charlotte Bird Artist-in-Residence 2014
"Quiet Magic: East Fork" 40" x 39.5"
Hand printed, hand dyed and commercial cotton, polyester thread, polyester batting, glass bead



Linda Infante-Lyons Artist-in-Residence 2014
"Denali, the Source" 36" x 48"
Oil on canvas



NPS PHOTO / LIAN LAW



NPS PHOTO / KATIE THORESEN

Tom Sexton Writer-in-Residence 2014

Excerpts from

"Li Bai, A T’ang Dynasty Poet, Finds Himself at Denali National Park and Preserve"

Li Bai Watches the Tundra Fade at Dusk

He was walking along a gravel bench above a stream when he looked up at the tundra that was just beginning to fade reminding him of the rouge on a beautiful woman’s cheeks. This was the time of day he loved when the moon was beginning to rise. He was no longer young, but once he was a bright flame fed by desire.

Li Bai and the Brown Bear

When he saw it ahead of him on the road, he was amazed by its size, and he had seen bears when he wandered Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. When the bear turned its massive head to look at him, Li Bai quickly composed a poem in its honor, a poem about its generous nature and courage. As he chanted, he bent forward rolling his shoulders from side to side.

I meet Li Bai Near the Summit of Polychrome Pass

Acrophobia had turned me to stone near the summit when I saw him leaning over the edge for a better look. When he saw me motionless except for my shaking knees, he called, “This view deserves its own poem, why are you on the far side of the road away from the edge if you’re a poet?” He’s as agile as a mountain goat, I thought. With my eyes on the ground, I turned and made my way back down. When I reached the cabin, it was cold. His long beard was as white as a snowy owl.

Li Bai Says Goodbye

He smiled when the Milky Way, his Heaven’s River, appeared for the first time since he arrived. I put it there for him to follow home, but he wanted to sleep beside Wonder Lake one more time then wake beneath Denali. He would spend his last day wandering and end at Polychrome Pass at dusk to say goodbye to the yellow-crowned sparrow whose song had made him weep with joy. Using his long silk robe for a sail, he rose then disappeared to the west, trailing alpenglow.



NPS PHOTO / NAAMAN HORN

The **Denali Music Festival**, affiliated with the Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival, is set for Saturday, July 18 at the Denali Visitor Center. More @ <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliFestival>

Calendar of Events and Outreach Activities

Date	Time	Location	Event Title	Speaker Name
Fri May 29	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Mon June 1	7 pm	MSLC	Denali Archaeology	Phoebe Gilbert
Fri June 5	7 pm	MSLC	Earthquakes: Denali Specific	Michael West
Sun June 7	7 pm	MSLC	Archaeology to Zooarchaeology: Bones Tell Tales	Diane Hanson
Fri June 12	7 pm	MSLC	Rock and Willow Ptarmigan: Well Known But Poorly Understood	Rick Merizon
Sun June 14	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Fri June 19	7 pm	MSLC	Flower ID from a Bus	Verna Pratt
Mon June 22	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Fri June 26	7 pm	MLSC	Trails: A Part of Denali’s Future	Rob Burrows
Sun June 28	7 pm	MSLC	Science, Images and Poems from/of the Far North	Liz Bradfield
Mon June 29	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Sun July 5	7 pm	MSLC	Anthropods of Alaska	Derek Sykes
Mon July 6	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Fri July 10	7 pm	MSLC	Climate Change and Moose: Will They Be Winners or Losers?	Kris Hundertmark
Sun July 12	7 pm	MSLC	Alaska's Connection to the World Through Birds	Nils Warnock
Thu July 16	3 pm	DVC	Artist-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors	Brooks Salzwedel
Fri July 17	7 pm	MSLC	Recent Landslides in Denali: More to Come?	Denny Capps
Sat July 18	7 pm	DVC	Denali Music Festival performance of a selection from the "Composing in the Wilderness" program http://go.nps.gov/DenaliFestival	Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival Chamber Orchestra Robert Franz conducting
Mon July 20	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Fri July 24	7 pm	MSLC	Spruce Reproduction	Sarah Stehn
Sun July 26	7 pm	MSLC	The Unseen Bear	Sherry Simpson
Thu July 30	3 pm	DVC	Writer-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors	Yelizaveta Renfro
Fri July 31	7 pm	MSLC	Last Frontier of Weather	Dave Snider
Mon Aug 3	7 pm	MSLC	Climate Change Update	Terry Chapin
Mon Aug 7	7 pm	MLSC	Mushrooms	Gary Laursen
Sun Aug 9	7 pm	MSLC	Glaciers As A Vanishing Landscape	Carl Battreall
Thu Aug 13	3 pm	DVC	Writer-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors	Marianne Boruch
Fri Aug 14	7 pm	MSLC	The World of Salmon and Bears	Debbie Miller
Mon Aug 17	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Fri Aug 21	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Mon Aug 24	7 pm	MSLC	The Magic and Mystery of the Aurora	Neal Brown
Fri Aug 28	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Mon Aug 31	7 pm	MSLC	Wolves and Mesopredator Community Dynamics	Kelly Sivy
Fri Sept 4	7 pm	MSLC	TBA	
Thu Sept 10	3 pm	DVC	Artist-in-Residence Outreach Activity with Visitors	David Rosenthal
Thu Sept 17 to Mon Sept 21	All day	DVC	Road Lottery and Military Appreciation Day: Learn more at http://go.nps.gov/DenaliLottery	

MSLC = Murie Science and Learning Center **DVC** = Denali Visitor Center See maps pages 9 and 16

For the latest updates, visit an online calendar @ <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCalendar>



Visitor photo courtesy Scott Isenburg

FIND YOUR PARK

Share your pictures with the park at
<http://go.nps.gov/DenaliShare>

In the lower level of the Denali Visitor Center is an exhibit that encourages visitors to express what Denali means to them. Here are some examples:

Denali makes me happy – Eli, age 4

Freitas Family was here from Brazil by car ... Denali is very beautiful.

Denali means seeing the world from a whole different perspective.

I'm sorry: I might have killed some mosquitoes while visiting Denali. But they don't seem to be an endangered species.

I have dreamed of coming to the Alaska Interior since I was a little girl. It has taken me 55 years to finally get here and I am in awe. I have not yet seen the peak, but I marvel at the natural beauty of the surrounding area.

Denali reminds me of what's important in life. That there is so much more to experience in the world. That things you can't see with the human eye deserve just as much attention and protection. That everything you do has a ripple effect, be it direct or indirect.

Denali is a place where kids can really learn about nature while having a great time. The scenery is fantastic and the memories are unforgettable.

A place on a map until you get here. Then it becomes a place in your heart.



Visitor photo courtesy Shubham Garg



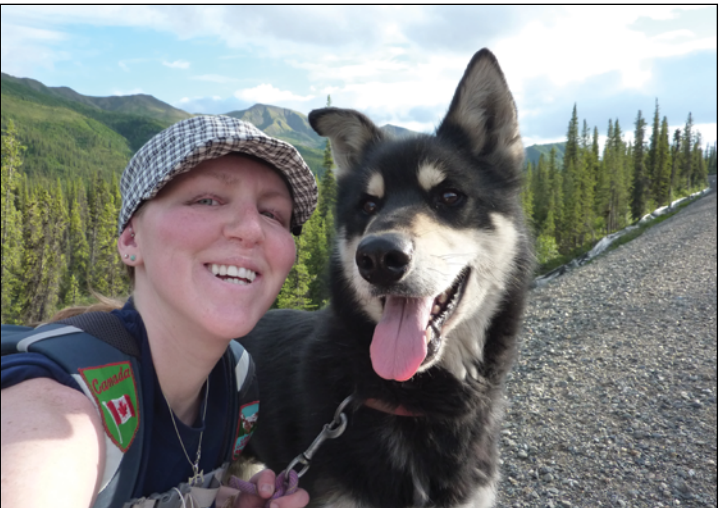
Visitor photo courtesy Thomas Kaess



Visitor photo courtesy Sabrina Gneiting



Visitor photo courtesy David Arnold



Visitor photo courtesy Cami Winslow



Visitor photo courtesy Paolo Vimercati



Visitor photo courtesy Jim Neel

FOLLOW

DenaliNPS



www.nps.gov/dena

Stay Connected

with DenaliNPS

twitter.com/**DenaliNPS**
www.facebook.com/**DenaliNPS**
www.flickr.com/photos/**DenaliNPS**
www.youtube.com/user/**DenaliNPS**



NPS PHOTO / JAY ELHARD

Your Denali Story

We've made it easy for you to tell others about the things you've seen and experienced during your visit to Denali. If you have a minute to spare, and a telephone, you can record a story that may appear on the park website, with links from popular social media feeds. Visit <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliStory> or call 907 683-6400.

Interactive iBooks and ePubs

Explore two popular topics more fully through digital publications loaded with interactive text, photo galleries, audio files and video clips. The *Denali Climate Anthology* invites five accomplished local authors to chronicle the effects of a changing climate on the lives and landscape they treasure here. The *Artist-in-Residence Catalog* is a comprehensive exhibit of all the art, writing, and music that participants have donated to the program collection since 2002.

Learn how you can download copies at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliMedia>



Webcams

If you find yourself craving a Denali experience once you return home, the park has a growing array of as many as a half dozen live webcams running at any one time with moment-to-moment updates from this special place @ <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliWebcams>



Online Guides and Videos

Entrance Area Trails

Day Hike Resources = <http://go.usa.gov/j2XJ>

McKinley Station Trail
Online tour and video = <http://go.usa.gov/Bcx4>
PDF = <http://go.usa.gov/Bcxk>

Mount Healy Overlook Trail
Video = <http://go.usa.gov/Bcad>
PDF = <http://go.usa.gov/BcxP>

Roadside Trail
Video = <http://go.usa.gov/BcaF>
PDF = <http://go.usa.gov/BcxG>

Rock Creek Trail
Video = <http://go.usa.gov/BcC3>
PDF = <http://go.usa.gov/Bcxz>

Savage River Loop Trail
Video = <http://go.usa.gov/BcCT>

Triple Lakes Trail
Video = <http://go.usa.gov/BcaW>
PDF = <http://go.usa.gov/BcaC>



Puppycam, from Park Kennels



The Alpine Tundra webcam faces west into the park from a remote shoulder of Mount Healy.

			A	B	E	R	I	N	G	L	A	N	D	B	R	I	D	G	E
	A			L	G														
	L			C	A	P	E	K	R	U	S	E	N	S	T	E	R	N	W
	E	N			T	S		A	N	I	A	K	C	H	A	K			R
	U	O			E		K	O	B	U	K	V	A	L	L	E	Y	K	A
	T	A			S			A							A	V		L	N
S	I	T	K	A	O				P						G	A		O	G
	A	A	E		F		D			U					N	L		N	E
	N	K	N		T			E			B	G			A	O		D	L
	W		A		H				N			L			K	R		I	L
	W		I		E					A		A	I		W	I		K	S
	I	L	F		A						L	C		C	I	N		E	T
	I	A	J		R							I			L	P		G	E
Y	U	K	O	N	C	H	A	R	L	E	Y	E			D	A		O	L
		E	R		T				K			R			R	C	N	L	I
		C	D		I					A			B		I	I		D	A
		L	S		C						T		A		V	F		R	S
		A									M	Y			E	I		U	
		R										A			R	C		S	
		K	I	N	U	P	I	A	T	H	E	R	I	T	A	G	E	H	

Translations

BASIC VISITOR INFORMATION

Chinese simplified
中文 (简体)



<http://go.usa.gov/bAT>

Chinese traditional
中文 (繁体)



<http://go.usa.gov/bAb>

Deutsch



<http://go.usa.gov/bAD>

Français



<http://go.usa.gov/bAj>

Japanese
日本の



<http://go.usa.gov/bA4>

Korean
한국인



<http://go.usa.gov/bAg>

Russian
Россию



<http://go.usa.gov/bAW>

FIND YOUR PARK

WORD SEARCH SOLUTIONS

Alaska NPS Units
From Page 6



Wilderness Access Center



Visitor Center Campus



Eielson Visitor Center



Murie Science and Learning Center



Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station

Wilderness Access Center

Mile 0.75 Park Road
Open 5 am to 7 pm daily for restrooms, coffee, bus depot. Reservation desk opens 7 am. Information 7 am to 7 pm. Hours may vary during shoulder seasons. Offers bus tickets and campground information, coffee cart, "Grab & Go" food, retail sales. Film: *Across Time and Tundra*. 907 683-9274 <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliWAC>

All shuttle buses depart from the Wilderness Access Center.

Backcountry Information Center

Mile 0.75 Park Road, adjacent to the Wilderness Access Center. Open 9 am to 6 pm daily. Offers backcountry information and permits, bear-resistant food containers, maps. 907 683-9590

Riley Creek Mercantile

Mile 0.4 Park Road, Full-service check-in for campgrounds, bus tickets, convenience groceries, firewood, showers, and laundry. Open 7 am to 11 pm daily, with reduced hours in May and September.

Visitor Center Campus

Mile 1.4 Park Road
Offers bus stop, railroad depot, baggage check, Morino Grill, Alaska Geographic Bookstore, and Lost and Found at 907 683-9275

Murie Science and Learning Center

Mile 1.4 Park Road
Open 9 am to 4:30 pm daily. Offers general information, exhibits, presentations, half-day classes, multi-day seminars, teacher trainings, and youth camps. More at www.nps.gov/rlc/murie 907 683-6432

Denali Visitor Center

Mile 1.5 Park Road
Open 8 am to 6 pm daily. Offers general information, exhibits, interpretive programs, ranger-guided walks, Artist-in-Residence installation. Film: *Heartbeats of Denali* <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDVC>

Toklat Rest Stop

Mile 53 Park Road
Open 9 am to 7 pm daily. Offers general information, exhibits, Alaska Geographic Bookstore.

Eielson Visitor Center

Mile 65.9 Park Road
Open 9 am to 7 pm daily. Offers general information, exhibits, interpretive programs, ranger-guided walks, Artist-in-Residence installation. Film: *Climbing Mount McKinley* <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliEVC>

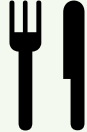

Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station

B Street in Talkeetna
Open 8 am to 5:30 pm daily. Offers mountaineering information for the Alaska Range, general information, exhibits, Alaska Geographic Bookstore. 907 733-2231

NPS PHOTOS / KENT MILLER



Save money and reduce use of disposable plastic drink containers by refilling your bottle with free, fresh water from filtered dispensers at six park locations (from east to west): Riley Creek Mercantile, Wilderness Access Center, Murie Science and Learning Center, Morino Grill, Denali Visitor Center, and Eielson Visitor Center. Water sources are limited beyond the park entrance area.







Have you earned an afternoon treat?

Present this coupon 3-6 pm daily with a Passport Stamp from the Denali Visitor Center and a photo of yourself hiking any trail in the park entrance area. (See pages 8-9 for trail options.)

The Morino Grill invites you to take 10% off an individual meal purchase.

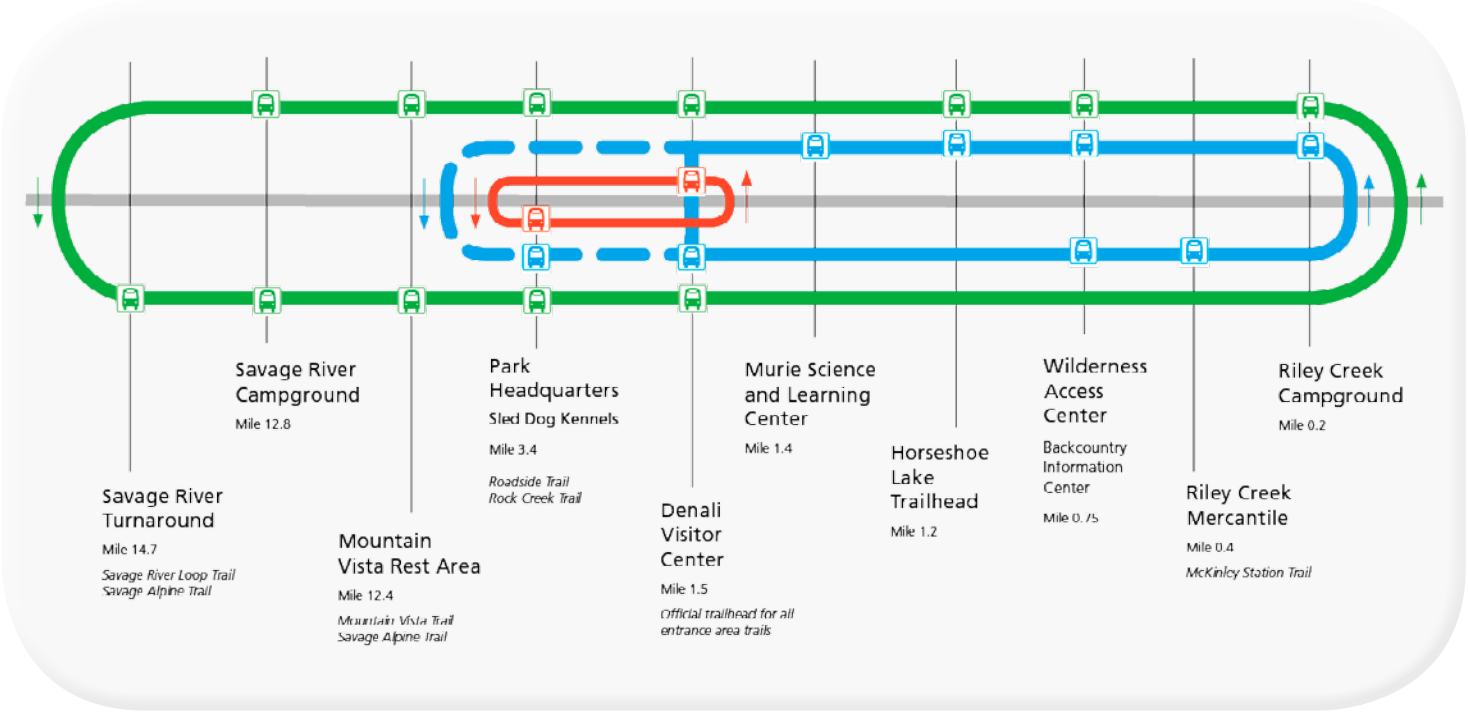
Alaska Geographic Bookstore offers you a free poster.

Sponsored by Doyon/Aramark Joint Venture, Alaska Geographic, and NPS Healthy Parks Healthy People. Offer expires Sept 21, 2015.





Do you collect park stamps? Park Passport books are available at park bookstores and www.alaskageographic.org/store



Ride Free and Green

There are three courtesy bus services available in the park's entrance area. All are wheelchair accessible. All operate daily and are free. Use them to travel between entrance area facilities, and in conjunction with your plans to hike entrance area trails.

Infographic not drawn to scale.

Please see pages 8-9 for a map of the entrance area with walking distances and descriptions of trails.

The Savage River Shuttle travels a two-hour loop between the park entrance area, the Mountain Vista Trailhead, and the Savage River at Mile 14.74. Download a PDF of Savage River Shuttle schedules at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCourtesy>

The order of stops for each loop is the Riley Creek Campground, Wilderness Access Center (WAC), Horseshoe Lake Trailhead, Denali Visitor Center (DVC), Park Headquarters, Mountain Vista Rest Area, Savage River Campground, Savage River Turnaround, Savage River Campground, Mountain Vista Trailhead, Park Headquarters, Denali Visitor Center.

The Riley Creek Loop travels the entrance area continuously, linking all major visitor facilities roughly every 30 minutes. Download a PDF of Riley Creek Loop schedules at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliCourtesy>

The order of stops is the Riley Creek Campground, Wilderness Access Center (WAC), Horseshoe Lake Trailhead, Murie Science and Learning Center (MSLC), Denali Visitor Center (DVC), Wilderness Access Center (WAC), Riley Creek Mercantile. On alternating loops, between stops at the MSLC and DVC, a stop is added at Park Headquarters.

The Sled Dog Demonstration Shuttle travels to the Park Kennels, which are located more than two miles from the visitor center campus. Free round trip transportation departs from the Denali Visitor Center bus depot 40 minutes before each demonstration. During peak season, this means 9:20 am, 1:20 pm, and 3:20 pm daily. Offerings are more limited in May and September, however. Check at the visitor center or the bus depot for posted departure times. Follow painted white paw prints on pathways a short distance from the visitor center to reach the bus stop. Learn more on page 10, or at <http://go.nps.gov/DenaliDogs>